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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Mercken et al.

Examiner: **To Be Assigned**

Group Art Unit: **1614**

Application No.: **10/691,079**

Filed: **October 22, 2003**

Title: **INHIBITORS OF SRC KINASE FOR USE IN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

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Applicants submit herewith a certified copy of EP application 02292608.3, filed on October 22, 2002, for which priority is claimed in the above-identified application.

This submission and request for entry is being made to satisfy the requirements under 35 U.S.C. § 119. Please note that no fees are associated with the entry of the priority documents since they are being timely submitted prior to the date the issue fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,

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Aventis Docket No. **FRAV2002/0030USNP**

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Die angehefteten Unterlagen stimmen mit der ursprünglich eingereichten Fassung der auf dem nächsten Blatt bezeichneten europäischen Patentanmeldung überein.

The attached documents are exact copies of the European patent application described on the following page, as originally filed.

Les documents fixés à cette attestation sont conformes à la version initialement déposée de la demande de brevet européen spécifiée à la page suivante.

Patentanmeldung Nr. | Patent application No. | Demande de brevet n°

02292608.3

Der Präsident des Europäischen Patentamts;
Im Auftrag

For the President of the European Patent Office

Le Président de l'Office européen des brevets
p.o.

R C van Dijk

Anmeldung Nr:
Application no.: 02292608.3
Demande no:

Anmeldetag:
Date of filing: 22.10.02
Date de dépôt:

Anmelder/Applicant(s)/Demandeur(s):

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Bezeichnung der Erfindung/Title of the invention/Titre de l'invention:
(Falls die Bezeichnung der Erfindung nicht angegeben ist, siehe Beschreibung.
If no title is shown please refer to the description.
Si aucun titre n'est indiqué se referer à la description.)

Inhibitors of Src kinase for use in Alzheimer's disease

In Anspruch genommene Priorität(en) / Priority(ies) claimed /Priorité(s) revendiquée(s)
Staat/Tag/Aktenzeichen/State/Date/File no./Pays/Date/Numéro de dépôt:

Internationale Patentklassifikation/International Patent Classification/ Classification internationale des brevets:

G01N33/00

Am Anmeldetag benannte Vertragstaaten/Contracting states designated at date of filing/Etats contractants désignées lors du dépôt:

AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE SK TR

Inhibitors of Src kinase for use in Alzheimer's disease

The present invention relates to the identification of inhibitors of Src kinase, assays and methods useful for such identification and the use of Src inhibitors for the preparation of pharmaceuticals for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's disease is a neurodegenerative disorder of the brain, which is accompanied at the cellular level by a massive loss of neurons in the limbic system and in the cerebral cortex. In the brain areas affected, protein deposits, so-called plaques, can be detected at the molecular level, which are an essential characteristic of Alzheimer's disease. The protein occurring most frequently in these plaques is a peptide of 40 to 42 amino acids in size, which is designated as Aß-peptide. This peptide is a cleavage product of a larger protein of 695 to 770 amino acids, the so-called Amyloid Precursor Protein (APP).

APP is an integral transmembrane protein, which firstly traverses the lipid bilayer. By far the largest part of the protein is extracellular, while the shorter C-terminal domain is directed into the cytosol (Figure 1). APP is the substrate of three different proteases: α-secretase, β-secretase and γ-secretase. Within APP, about two thirds of the Aß-peptide originates from the extracellular domain and about one third from the transmembrane domain.

Beside the membrane-linked APP, a secreted form of APP can be detected which consists of the large ectodomain of APP and is designated as APP_{sec} ("secreted APP"). APP_{sec} is formed from APP by proteolytic cleavage, which is effected by the α-secretase (Figure 2). This proteolytic cleavage takes place within the amino acid sequence of the Aß-peptide (after amino acid residue 16 of the Aß-peptide). Proteolysis of APP by the α-secretase thus excludes the formation of the Aß-peptide.

The Aß-peptide can thus only be formed from APP in an alternative processing route. It is postulated that two proteases are involved in this processing, one protease, which is designated as ß-secretase, cleaving at the N-terminus of the Aß-peptide in the APP and the second protease, which is designated as γ-secretase, releasing the C-terminus of the Aß-peptide (Kang, J. et al., (1987) Nature, 325, 733 (Figure 2).

There are many indications that the Aß-peptide is a crucial factor in the occurrence of Alzheimer's disease. Inter alia, neurotoxicity of Aß-fibrils in cell culture is postulated (Yankner, B.A. et al., (1990) Proc Natl Acad Sci USA, 87, 9020). In patients with Down's syndrome, in which APP occurs in an additional copy, the neuropathology characteristic of Alzheimer's disease also occurs even at an age of 30 years. Here, it is assumed that the overexpression of APP follows an increased conversion into the Aß-peptide (Rumble, B. et al., (1989), N. Engl. J. Med., 320, 1446).

Furthermore the strongest indication of the central role of the Aß-peptide in Alzheimer's disease are the familial forms of the disease. Here, mutations are found in the APP gene around the area of the secretase cleavage sites or in two further AD-associated genes (presenilins), which in cell culture lead to a significant increase in Aß production (Scheuner, D. et al., (1996), Nature Medicine, 2, 864).

There are a number of indications that APP is first cleaved by the ß-secretase, to serve thereafter as a substrate for γ-secretase (Maruyama, K. Y. et al., (1994) Biochem. Biophys Res Commun, 202, 1517; Estus, S. et al., (1992), Science, 255, 726). The γ-secretase therefore has a crucial role in the formation of the Aß-peptide. A demonstration of the activity of the γ-secretase which is customarily used is the detection of the Aß-peptide, which, however, frequently turns out to be difficult.

An important reason for this is that only a small part of APP is converted into the Aß-peptide (Simons M, et al., Neurosci (1996) 1;16(3):899-908). Moreover, the Aß-peptide is a small breakage fragment of about 4 kDa and, on account of its hydrophobic character, has a great tendency to self-aggregation so that it easily precipitates under physiological conditions (Hilbich, C. et al., (1991) J. Mol. Biol., 218, 149).

The short, 47 amino acid-long C-terminal tail of APP is exposed to the cytosol and is the site of interaction for molecular adaptors containing PTB domains, named Fe65, X11, m-dab and Jip1. Since the binding of these proteins is dependent on the YENPTY sequence on APP, it is expected that their interactions are not simultaneous (T. Russo et al. (1998) FEBS Lett. 434, 1-7; N. Zambrano et al. (1997) J. Biol. Chem. 272, 6399-6405). Indeed, it has been shown, in cultured cells, that Fe65 and X11 proteins have opposite effects on the proteolytic processing of APP (Sabo S. et al. (1999) J. Biol. Chem. 274, 7952-7957; Borg J.P. et al. (1998) J. Biol. Chem. 273, 14761-14766). A possible explanation for these findings may reside in the recruitment, by either Fe65 or X11, of APP in different macromolecular complexes, depending on the interaction of different sets of proteins with the other protein-protein interaction domains of the two adaptors.

The APP cytodomain contains various serine and threonine residues, which are phosphorylated *in vitro* by different kinase activities. Thr668 is a main site of phosphorylation *in vivo*, being phosphorylated by neuronal cyclin-dependent kinases, Cdk5 in neurons (Iijima, K. et al. (2000) J. Neurochem. 75, 1085-1091), cdc2 kinase in dividing cells (Suzuki, T. et al. (1994) EMBO J. 13, 1114-1122 ; Oishi, M. et al. (1997) Mol. Med. 3, 111-123), and glycogen synthase kinase 3b (GSK3b) and stress-activated protein kinase 1b (SAP kinase1b) *in vitro* (Aplin, E. E. et al. (1996) J. Neurochem. 67, 699-707 ; Standen, C. L. et al. (2001) J. Neurochem. 76, 316-320). It has been shown

that phosphorylation of APP regulates neurite extension in differentiating PC12 cells (Ando, K. et al. (1999) J. Neurosci. 19, 4421-4427), while, at the molecular level, APP phosphorylation may regulate the binding to the PTB domain-containing adaptors and its processing (Ando K. et al. (2001) J Biol. Chem., 276, 40353-40361).

Previously it was demonstrated that APP is phosphorylated at tyrosine 682 in cells expressing an active form of the Abl non receptor tyrosine kinase (Zambrano N. et al. (2001) J Biol. Chem. 276, 19787-92); active Abl is recruited in proximity to APP by Fe65, which may bind simultaneously these two proteins through its WW domain (Abl) and PTB2 domain (APP). Phosphorylation of Tyr682 of APP generates a docking site for the SH2 domain of Abl and, in fact stable complexes between APP and Abl are formed.

In order to test the hypothesis that tyrosine phosphorylation regulates pp60c-src biological activity, Kmiecik and Shalloway (1987) Cell 49, 65-73 described the construction and study of pp60c-src mutants in which Tyr 527 and Tyr 416 were separately or coordinately altered to phenylalanine. Tyr---- Phe 527 mutation strongly activated pp60c-src transforming and kinase activities, whereas the additional introduction of a Tyr----Phe 416 mutation suppressed these activities. Tyr----Phe 416 mutation of normal pp60c-src eliminated its partial transforming activity, which suggests that transient or otherwise restricted phosphorylation of Tyr 416 is important for pp60c-src function even though stable phosphorylation is not observed in vivo. Normally, pp60c-src is phosphorylated in vivo at tyrosine 527, a residue not present in pp60v-src (its transforming homolog), and not at tyrosine 416, its site of in vitro autophosphorylation.

Williamson et al. (2002) J. Neurochem. 22, 10-20) described the rapid phosphorylation of neuronal proteins including Tau and Focal adhesion

kinase in response to amyloid-β peptide exposure and an involvement of Src family protein kinases.

Slack, B. E. and Berse; B. (1998) described in Society for Neuroscience Abstracts, Vol. 24, No. 1-2, pp. 208 (Conference/Meeting Information: 28th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Part 1, Los Angeles, California, USA, Nov. 7-12, 1998 Society for Neuroscience, ISSN: 0190-5295) a role for tyrosine kinases in the stimulation of APP release by action of muscarinic m3 acetylcholine receptors. They described a role for Src tyrosine kinase in the regulation of APP_{sec} release by muscarinic receptors. They demonstrated that an increase in the active form of Src leads to a decrease in secAPP.

The present invention provides methods of identifying therapeutic agents for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

One embodiment of the invention provides methods for identifying inhibitors of Src activity, whereby the methods comprise the steps

a) providing a Src protein (i.e. a Src encoding DNA under control of an expression element) and
b) determining if a compound inhibits the activity of Src.

The Src protein could be any mammalian Src protein, preferably human Src (SEQ ID NO. 1 (isoform 1) and SEQ ID NO. 2 (isoform 2)) or rodent Src (SEQ ID NO. 3). The protein could be obtained by expressing human Src or rodent Src cDNA, by using e. g. sequences SEQ ID NO. 4 or SEQ ID NO. 5. In addition, one of the sequences deposited under Genbank Accession No. M17031 or BC011566 can be used.

For the method preferably a mammalian cell or cell line is used in which Src is expressed, either naturally or because the cell / cell line is genetically engineered. In a particular embodiment primary cultures of neurones are used.

Another embodiment of the invention relates to a method of identifying compounds, which inhibit Src expression. The method comprises the steps

a) providing a sequence which regulates Src expression (i.e. a Src promotor sequence) and
b) determining if a compound inhibits the expression of Src protein.

The sequence which regulates Src expression is preferably linked to a reporter gene or a reporter gene construct. Such reporter gene can easily be used to determine, if a compound inhibits the expression of Src. Another possibility is the use of the Src gene. The region of chromosome 20 including the Src gene is deposited under Genbank Accession no AL133293 .

An house-keeping promoter, which can be used as a sequence which regulates Src expression, has been described, as well as an alternative promoter regulated by the Hepatic Nuclear Factor-1a (Bonham et al. (2000) J. Biol. Chem. 275, 37604) (Genbank accession number AF272982).

Active compounds, this means compounds, which inhibit Src expression or which inhibit Src protein activity, can be used as pharmaceuticals. Such compounds can be used for the preparation of a pharmaceutical for the treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

Another embodiment of the invention relates to the use of compounds identified by one of the forgoing methods for preparing a pharmaceutical for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

The invention further relates to a method of preparing a pharmaceutical for treatment of Alzheimer's disease comprising the steps

a) identification of a therapeutic compound by the use of one of the methods described above;
b) optimisation of the identified compound; and
c) formulation of the optimised compound.

Another embodiment of the invention relates to the use of Src inhibitors known in the art for the preparation of a pharmaceutical for the treatment or the prevention of Alzheimer's disease. The invention relates to the use of PP2 (4-amino-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-7-(t-butyl)pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine) as pharmaceutical. The invention further relates to the use of PP2 for the preparation of a pharmaceutical for the treatment of Alzheime'rs disease.

Another embodiment of the invention refers to the use of PP2 for the preparation of a pharmaceutical for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

The new results demonstrate, that APP is phosphorylated not only by Abl. In fact Src kinase is also responsible for APP tyrosine phosphorylation. It is expected that tyrosine phosphorylation of APP alters the binding properties of its cytodomain, and then the processing of APP could be consequently modified. If so, this will prove useful the use of currently available tyrosine kinase inhibitors, and to design new ones for pharmacological modulation of the release of APP processing products in cellular and animal models of Alzheimer's disease.

Taken together, the results from the following examples suggest that exogenous Src activity is responsible for activation of a pathway resulting in increased Aβ secretion. This also suggests that PP2 could be used as a pharmacological agent able to reduce Aβ secretion in cellular and animal systems resembling AD status.

Therefore, a line of CHO cells stably overexpressing APP751 form was used, which secretes discrete levels of Aβ. If secretion involves endogenous Src activity, PP2 should be able to inhibit production of Aβ also in this cellular system. This is indeed the case since, as shown in Figure 6, PP2 reduces in a dose-dependent manner the amount of Aβ at the three time points tested (1, 3 and 12 hours), while PP3, used at the highest concentration, has no effect.

These experiments clearly outline the relevance of Src activation in Aβ secretion and constitute the basis to try pharmacological applications for tyrosine kinase inhibitors in the treatment of AD. Screening of such inhibitors and their optimization will lead to the development of potential, innovative therapeutic agents for treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

Examples

Example 1
Cell culture, transfections and treatments

Human embryonic kidney cells (HEK293) were cultured in Dulbecco's modified minimal medium supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum at 37 °C in a 5% CO_2 atmosphere. For transfection, cells were grown for 16 hours in antibiotic-free medium, and transfected with Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) according to manufacturer's instructions. The total amount of DNA was maintained constant by addition of empty vector DNA. 48 hours after transfection, culture medium were recovered, while cells were harvested in ice-cold phosphate buffer saline (PBS) and gently lysed in lysis buffer (50 mM Tris/HCl, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 0.5% Triton X-100, 10% glycerol, 50 mM NaF, 1mM Na vanadate), in the presence of a protease inhibitor cocktail (Complete, EDTA-free, Roche). The extracts were clarified by centrifugation at 16,000 x g at 4 °C, and the protein concentration determined by the Bio-

Rad protein assay according to manufacturer's instructions. For metabolic labelling, 36 hours after transfection, cells were incubated for 30 minutes in medium without methionine and cysteine, then the medium was replaced with fresh medium containing 80 μCi/ml of ^{35}S-methionine/cysteine mixture (Promix, 1000 Ci/mmol, Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). Pulse was for 30 minutes, then the radioactive medium was replaced with complete medium for 90 minutes. CHO cells expressing wild-type APP751 have been described (N. Zambrano et al. (1997) J. Biol. Chem. 272, 6399-6405).

Immuno-precipitations were performed either on culture medium, or on cellular lysates with 1 μg/sample of the 6E10 monoclonal antibody (Signet). Radioactive samples were resolved on 10% SDS-PAGE and quantitated with a Storm 840 phosphorimager (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech).

PP2 and PP3 (Hanke, J.H. et al. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271, 695–701) were purchased from Calbiochem and dissolved in DMSO; treatments were performed on transfected cells for 48 hours with vehicle alone, or with 1, 5 and 20 μM PP2 or PP3. Concentration of DMSO was the same in all samples. Treatments on CHO/APP751 cells was made with DMSO, or PP2 (5 and 20 μM), or PP3 (20 μM).

Example 2

HEK293 cells were transfected with APP695 expression vectors. This cellular system was used because these cells are transfected to high efficiency, and because they express the whole set of processing activities required for APP maturation. In fact, upon transfection of human APP695 expression vectors, both α-secretase product (APP_{sec}) and β- γ-secretase products (Aβ) accumulate in the culture medium. HEK293 cells were co-transfected with APP and either empty vector, or active Abl (Abl-PP), or active Src (SrcYF) kinases, and the secretion of APP_{sec} and Aβ were evaluated. Transfected cells have been pulse-labelled with ^{35}S-Met/Cys mix for 30', and chased with cold amino acids for 90'. Both medium and protein extracts have been used

in immunoprecipitation experiments for quantitative dosage of radiolabeled APP_{sec} and holo-APP, respectively. While the stability of holo-APP was not affected by co-transfection with either Abl-PP or SrcYF active kinases (Figure 3A), a reduction in the relative amounts of APP_{sec}, normalised to the corresponding holo-APP synthesised during the pulse period was observed in both cases (Figure 3B). This can be interpreted as a decrease of the activity of the α-secretase pathway upon co-transfection of APP with the active kinases.

Example 3

Next, the accumulation of Aβ from cells transfected as above was investigated. The dosage was performed by sandwich ELISA assays on culture medium at 48 hours after transfection (Figure 4). The assay clearly shows that in Src-expressing cells the amount of Aβ secreted is more elevated than in the presence of the control vector, or Abl-PP.

The mechanism by which active Src elicits such a dramatic increase in Aβ secretion is not clear. However, it might depend on phosphorylation of some other proteins, different from APP, since tyrosine phosphorylation of APP by Abl-PP does not result in increased Aβ levels. Accordingly, a similar behaviour is obtained with various APP mutants bearing tyrosine substitutions to either glycine or phenylalanine (data not shown).

Anyway, the rise in Aβ levels does depend on the tyrosine kinase activity of Src, since the accumulation of Aβ is sensitive to treatment by the Src-family specific inhibitor PP2. In fact, as shown in Figure 5, the exposure of transfected cells for 48 hours to increasing concentrations of PP2 results in dose-dependent decrease of secreted Aβ. Either PP3, an inactive analog of PP2, or vehicle alone, do not affect Aβ rise by SrcYF transfection.

Taken together, these observations suggest that exogenous Src activity is responsible for activation of a so far unidentified pathway resulting in increased Aβ secretion.

REFERENCES

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13) Hanke, J.H. et al. (1996) J. Biol. Chem. 271, 695–701.

Table 1:

Protein sequence of isoform 1 of human Src protein (SEQ ID NO. 1)

MGSNKSKPKDASQRRRSLEPAENVHGAGGGAFPASQTPSKPASADGHRGPSAAFAPAAA
EPKLFGGFNSSDTVTSPQRAGPLAGGVTTFVALYDYESRTETDLSFKKGERLQIVNNTRKVD
VREGDWWLAHSLSTGQTGYIPSNYVAPSDSIQAEEWYFGKITRRESERLLLNAENPRGTFL
VRESETTKGAYCLSVSDFDNAKGLNVKHYKIRKLDSGGFYITSRTQFNSLQQLVAYYSKHAD
GLCHRLTTVCPTSKPQTQGLAKDAWEIPRESLRLEVKLGQGCFGEVWMGTWNGTTRVAIK
TLKPGTMSPEAFLQEAQVMKKLRHEKLVQLYAVVSEEPIYIVTEYMSKGSLLDFLKGETGKYL

RLPQLVDMAAQIASGMAYVERMNYVHRDLRAANILVGENLVCKVADFGLARLIEDNEYTARQ
GAKFPIKWTAPEAALYGRFTIKSDVWSFGILLTELTTKGRVPYPGMVNREVLDQVERGYRMP
CPPECPESLHDLMCQCWRKEPEERPTFEYLQAFLEDYFTSTEPQYQPGENL

Table 2:
Protein sequence of isoform 2 of human Src (SEQ ID NO. 2)

MGSNKSKPKDASQRRRSLEPAENVHGAGGGAFPASQTPSKPASADGHRGPSAAFAPAAA
EPKLFGGFNSSDTVTSPQRAGPLAGGVTTFVALYDYESRTETDLSFKKGERLQIVNNTEGD
WWLAHSLSTGQTGYIPSNYVAPSDSIQAEEWYFGKITRRESERLLLNAENPRGTFLVRESET
TKGAYCLSVSDFDNAKGLNVKHYKIRKLDSGGFYITSRTQFNSLQQLVAYYSKHADGLCHRL
TTVCPTSKPQTQGLAKDAWEIPRESLRLEVKLGQGCFGEVWMGTWNGTTRVAIKTLKPGT
MSPEAFLQEAQVMKKLRHEKLVQLYAVVSEEPIYIVTEYMSKGSLLDFLKGETGKYLRLPQL
VDMAAQIASGMAYVERMNYVHRDLRAANILVGENLVCKVADFGLARLIEDNEYTARQGAKF
PIKWTAPEAALYGRFTIKSDVWSFGILLTELTTKGRVPYPGMVNREVLDQVERGYRMPCPPE
CPESLHDLMCQCWRKEPEERPTFEYLQAFLEDYFTSTEPQYQPGENL

Table 3:
Sequence of mouse Src protein (SEQ ID NO. 3)

MGSNKSKPKDASQRRRSLEPSENVHGAGGAFPASQTPSKPASADGHRGPSAAFVPPAAEP
KLFGGFNSSDTVTSPQRAGALAGGVTTFVALYDYESRTETDLSFKKGERLQIVNNTRKVDVR
EGDWWLAHSLSTGQTGYIPSNYVAPSDSIQAEEWYFGKITRRESERLLLNAENPRGTFLVR
ESETTKGAYCLSVSDFDNAKGLNVKHYKIRKLDSGGFYITSRTQFNSLQQLVAYYSKHADGL
CHRLTTVCPTSKPQTQGLAKDAWEIPRESLRLEVKLGQGCFGEVWMGTWNGTTRVAIKTLK
PGTMSPEAFLQEAQVMKKLRHEKLVQLYAVVSEEPIYIVTEYMNKGSLLDFLKGETGKYLRL

PQLVDMSAQIASGMAYVERMNYVHRDLRAANILVGENLVCKVADFGLARLIEDNEYTARQG

AKFPIKWTAPEAALYGRFTIKSDVWSFGILLTELTTKGRVPYPGMVNREVLDQVERGYRMPC

PPECPESLHDLMCQCWRKEPEERPTFEYLQAFLEDYFTSTEPQYQPGENL

Table 4:

cDNA sequence encoding human Scr protein (SEQ ID NO. 4)

```
1 catcgaggtt ttgagaggct aactctccca aaaaggacca tgggtagcaa
caagagcaag
61 cccaaggatg ccagccagcg gcgccgcagc ctggagcccg ccgagaacgt
gcacggcgct
121 ggcgggggcg ctttccccgc ctcgcagacc cccagcaagc cagcctcggc
cgacggccac
181 cgcggcccca gcgcggcctt cgcccccgcg gccgccgagc ccaagctgtt
cggaggcttc
241 aactcctcgg acaccgtcac ctccccgcag agggcgggcc cgctggccgg
tggagtgacc
301 acctttgtgg ccctctatga ctatgagtct aggacggaga cagacctgtc
cttcaagaaa
361 ggcgagcggc tccagattgt caacaacaca gagggagact ggtggctggc
ccactcgctc
421 agcacaggac agacaggcta catccccagc aactacgtgg cgccctccga
ctccatccag
481 gctgaggagt ggtattttgg caagatcacc agacgggagt cagagcggtt
actgctcaat
541 gcagagaacc cgagagggac cttcctcgtg cgagaaagtg agaccacgaa
aggtgcctac
601 tgcctctcag tgtctgactt cgacaacgcc aagggcctca acgtgaagca
ctacaagatc
661 cgcaagctgg acagcggcgg cttctacatc acctcccgca cccagttcaa
cagcctgcag
721 cagctggtgg cctactactc caaacacgcc gatggcctgt gccaccgcct
caccaccgtg
781 tgccccacgt ccaagccgca gactcagggc ctggccaagg atgcctggga
gatccctcgg
```

841 gagtcgctgc ggctggaggt caagctgggc cagggctgct ttggcgaggt gtggatgggg

901 acctggaacg gtaccaccag ggtggccatc aaaaccctga agcctggcac gatgtctcca

961 gaggccttcc tgcaggaggc ccaggtcatg aagaagctga ggcatgagaa gctggtgcag

1021 ttgtatgctg tggtttcaga ggagcccatt tacatcgtca cggagtacat gagcaagggg

1081 agtttgctgg actttctcaa gggggagaca ggcaagtacc tgcggctgcc tcagctggtg

1141 gacatggctg ctcagatcgc ctcaggcatg gcgtacgtgg agcggatgaa ctacgtccac

1201 cgggaccttc gtgcagccaa catcctggtg ggagagaacc tggtgtgcaa agtggccgac

1261 tttgggctgg ctcggctcat tgaagacaat gagtacacgg cgcggcaagg tgccaaattc

1321 cccatcaagt ggacggctcc agaagctgcc ctctatggcc gcttcaccat caagtcggac

1381 gtgtggtcct tcgggatcct gctgactgag ctcaccacaa agggacgggt gccctaccct

1441 gggatggtga accgcgaggt gctggaccag gtggagcggg gctaccggat gccctgcccg

1501 ccggagtgtc ccgagtccct gcacgacctc atgtgccagt gctggcggaa ggagcctgag

1561 gagcggccca ccttcgagta cctgcaggcc ttcctggagg actacttcac gtccaccgag

1621 ccccagtacc agcccgggga gaacctc**tag** gcacaggcgg gcccagaccg gcttctcggc

1681 ttggatcctg ggctgggtgg cccctgtctc ggggcttgcc ccactctgcc tgcctgctgt

1741 tggtcctctc tctgtggggc tgaattgcca ggggcgaggc ccttcctctt tggtggcatg

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Table 5:

Mouse Src cDNA sequence (SEQ ID NO. 5)

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1621 ctatag

Claims

1. Method for identifying a therapeutic compound for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease comprising the steps

a) providing a Src protein and
b) determining the inhibitory effect of a compound on the Src activity.

2. Method of identifying a therapeutic compound for the treatment of Alzheimer' s disease comprising the steps

a) providing a sequence which regulates Src expression and
b) determining if a compound inhibits the expression of Src protein.

3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein Src is human Src or mouse Src.

4. Method according to one of the forgoing claims, wherein Src has the sequence SEQ ID NO. 1, SEQ ID NO. 2 or SEQ ID NO. 3.

5. Method according to claim 1, wherein Src is expressed in a mammalian cell.

6. Method according to claim 2, wherein the regulating sequence is the Src promotor.

7. Method of preparing a pharmaceutical for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease comprising the steps

a) identification of a therapeutic compound by using one of the methods claimed in claims 1 to 6;

b) optimisation of the identified compound; and

c) formulation of the optimised compound.

8. Use of a compound identified by a method according to claims 1 to 6 for the preparation of a pharmaceutical for treating Alzheimer's disease.

9. PP2 for use as pharmaceutical.

10. Use of PP2 for the preparation of a pharmaceutical for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

FRAV2002/0030

PATENT APPLICATION

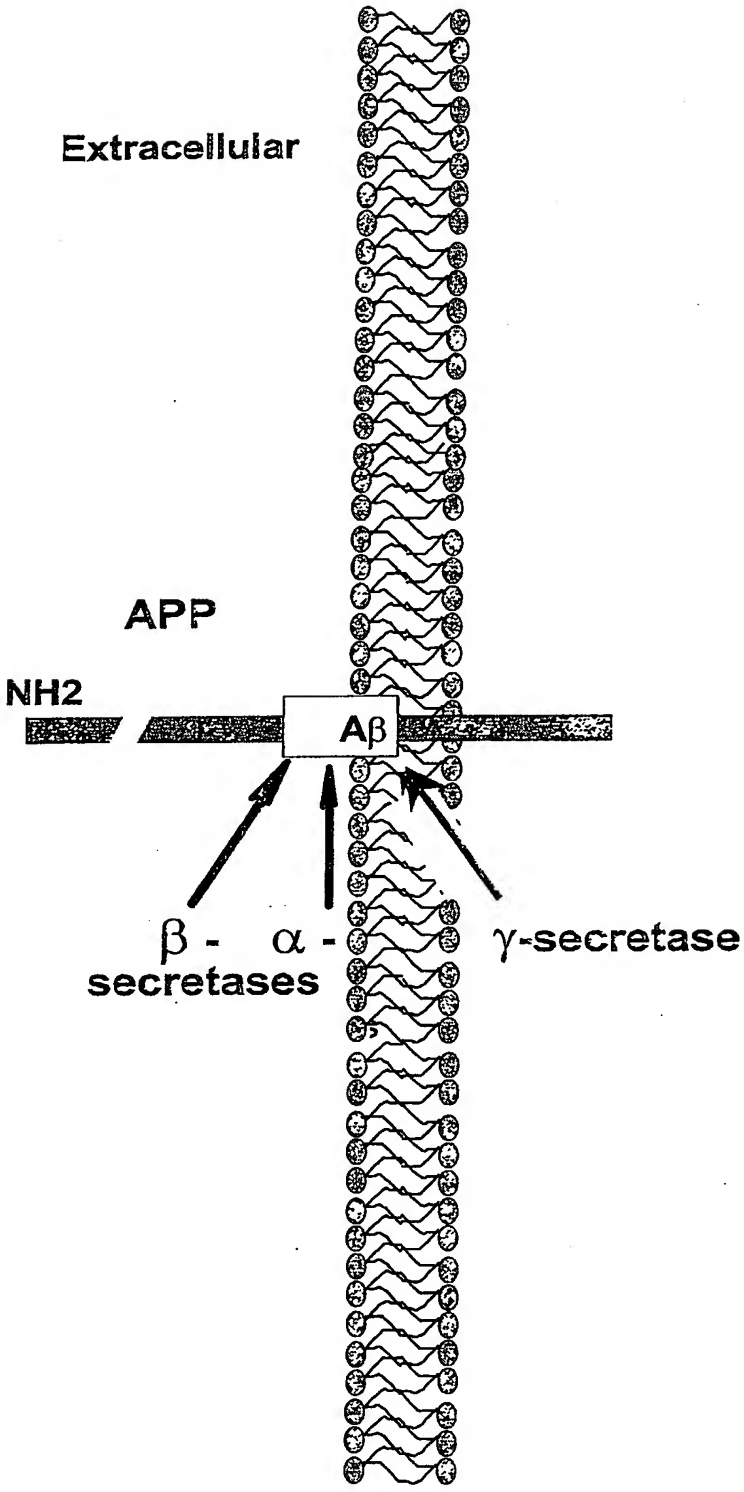
INHIBITORS OF SRC KINASE FOR USE IN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

AVENTIS PHARMA S.A.

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to the identification of inhibitors of Src kinase, assays and methods useful for such identification and the use of Src inhibitors for the preparation of pharmaceuticals for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

1. Figure 1



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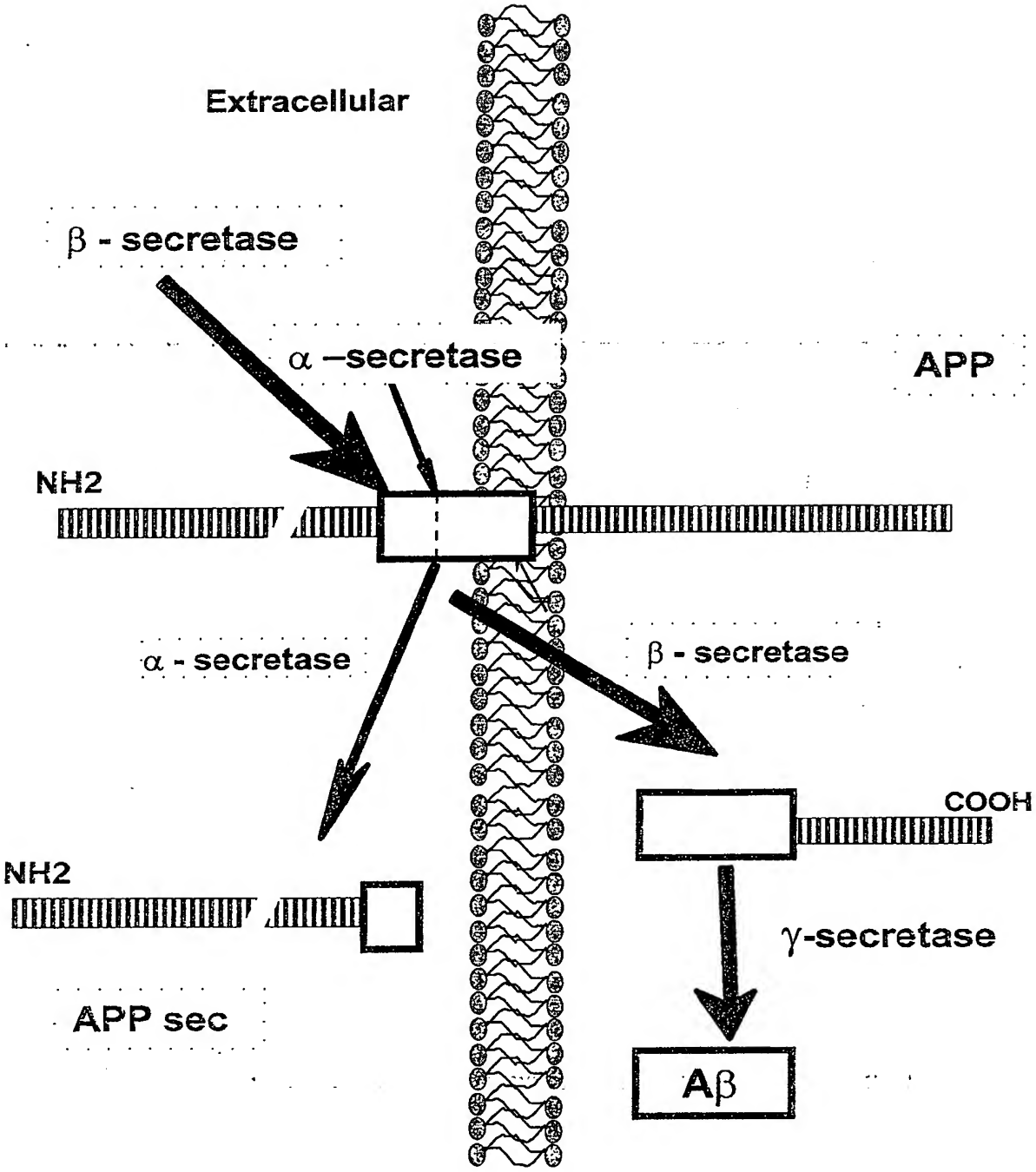
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Figure 3

Figure 3 A

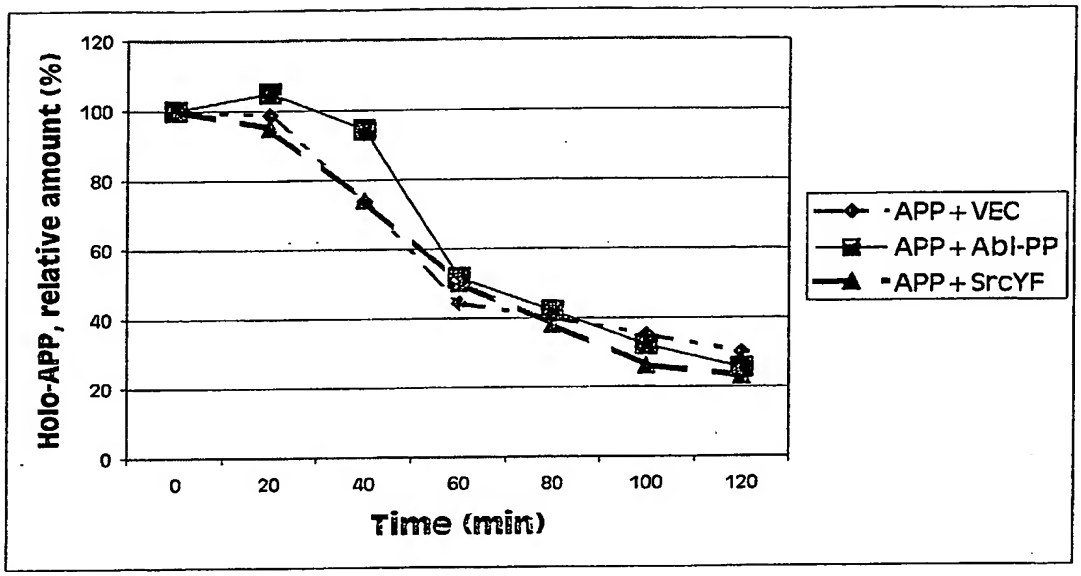
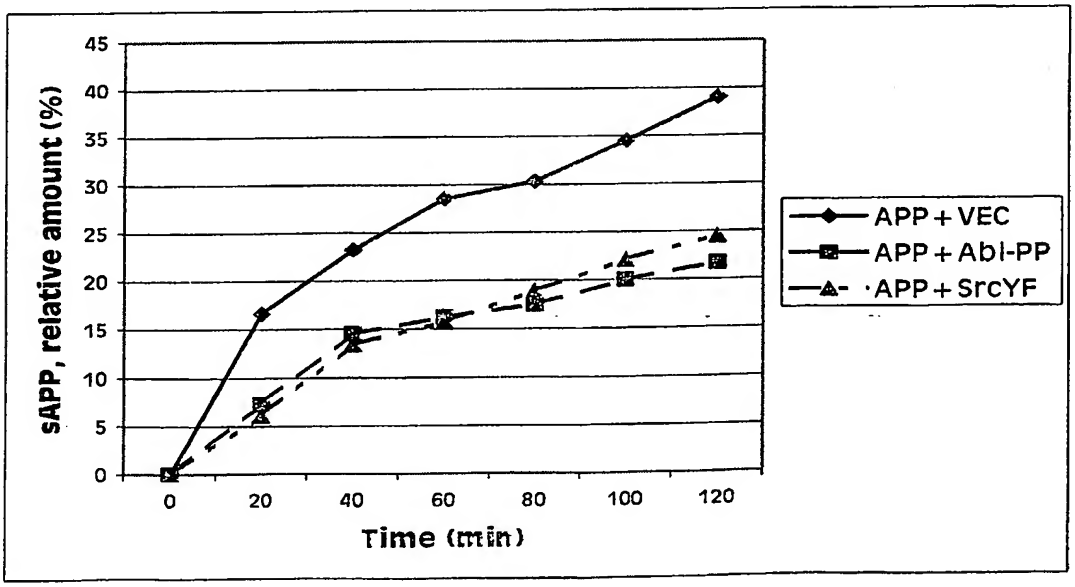


Figure 3 B



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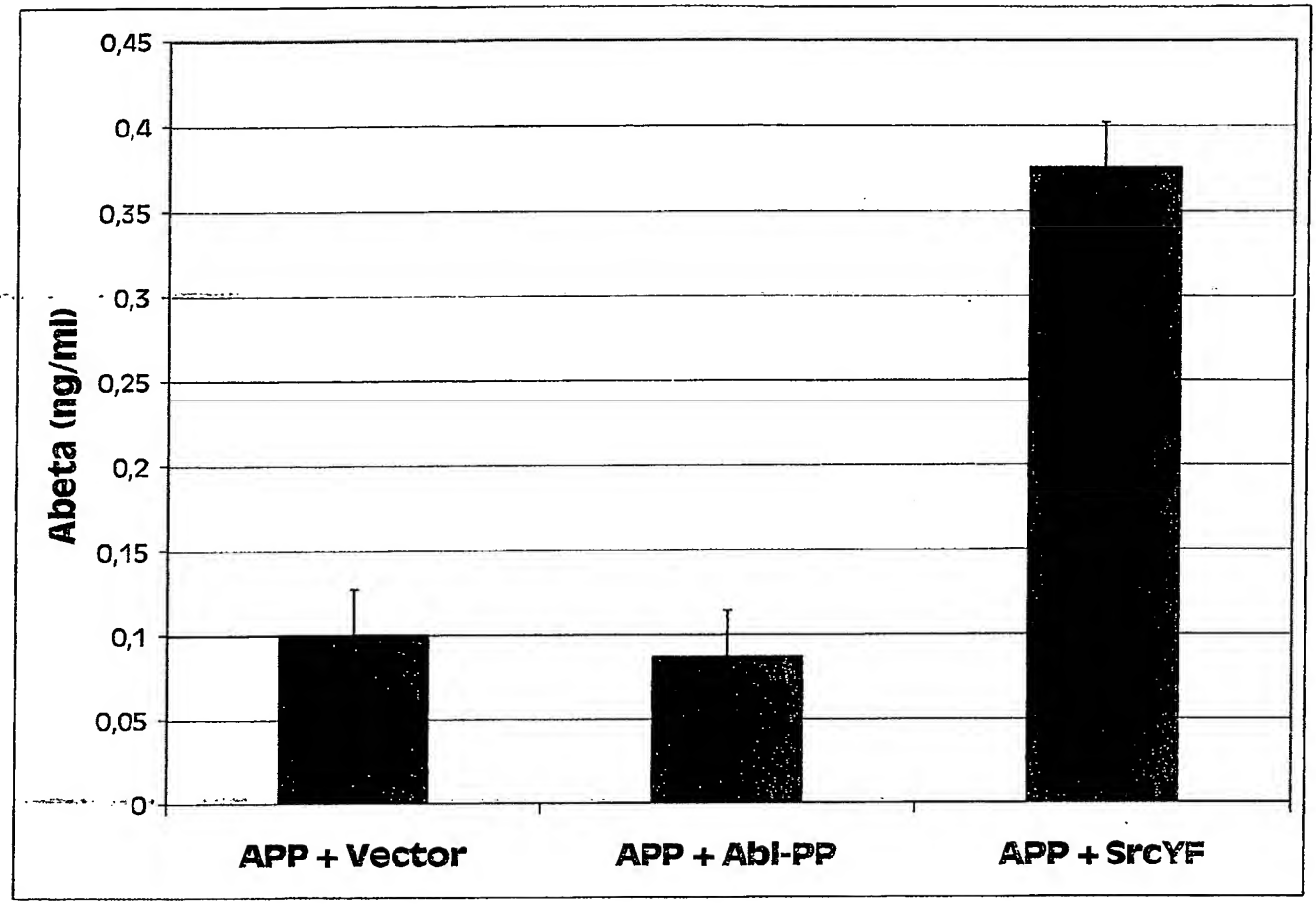

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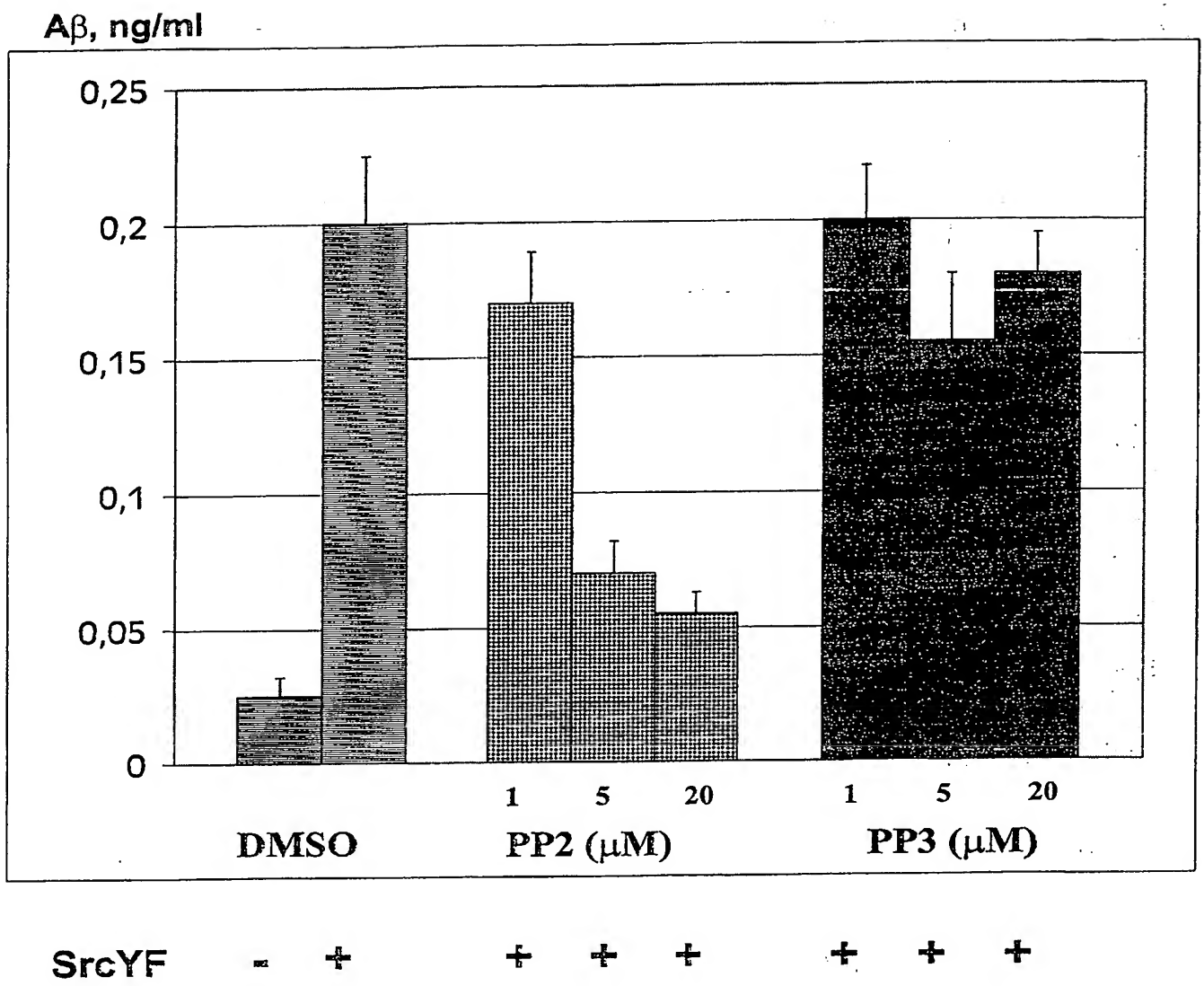

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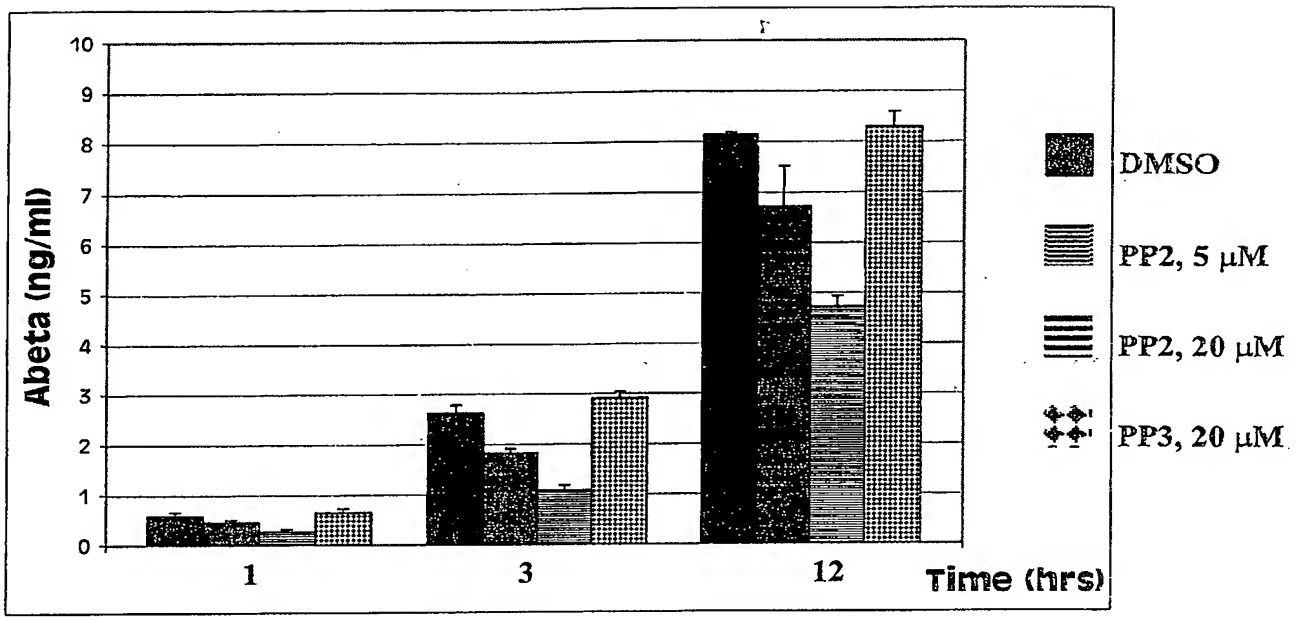
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8
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1
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1
3
12
Time (hrs)
DMSO
PP2, 5 μM
PP2, 20 μM
PP3, 20 μM

Organization Applicant

Street : 20, Avenue Raymond Aron
City : Antony
State : 92160
Country :
PostalCode :
PhoneNumber : 0033 1 55 71 4457
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EmailAddress : Claudia.Meinken@Aventis.com
<110> OrganizationName : Aventis Pharma S. A.

Application Project

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<140> CurrentAppNumber :
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<212> Type : DNA
<211> Length : 1626
SequenceName : Mouse src
SequenceDescription :

```
Feature
-------
Sequence: Mouse src:
<221> FeatureKey : CDS
<222> LocationFrom : 1
<222> LocationTo : 1626
      Other Information :
      CDSJoin : No

Custom Codon
------------
Sequence Name : Mouse src
```